West Coast National Waterway

2886. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received by the Government from Kerala to develop and maintain the West Coast National Waterway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent on the development of Water Coast Canal during 1995-96 and its latest progress?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The following points have been submitted for consideration :

(i) Declaration of remaining stretch of West Coast Canal from Kottapuram to Kasargode and Kollan to Kovalam as National Waterway;

(ii) To ensure that funds provided for development of West Coast Canal during 8th Five Year Plan are fully utilised;

(iii) Release of Central share of funds for the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of modernisation of jetties in Kerala.

(c) During the year 1995-96 an expenditure of Rs. 97.00 lakhs was incurred on the development of West Coast Canal. Various activities such as repairs of navigation locks, maintenance, capital dredging, land acquisition and channel marking, etc. are in progress.

Shortage of Blood

2887. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRTA :
DR. I.D. SWAMI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute shortage of Blood in the country particulartly in district headquarters and rural areas on account of which critical operations during summer and monsoon have to be suspended;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the steps taken to overcome the same;

(d) whether the Government have any scheme to provide blood to patients in emergency, where no such facilities exist;

(e) the number of blood banks at present in the Government/Private Sector in each State, State-wise;

(f) the financial assistance being provided by the Government and other agencies to them;

(g) whether the Government propose to open some more blood banks in the country; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requirement of blood as per WHO norm of 7 units of blood per hospital bed per year is about 42.00 lakh units. As against this, the availability is about 27.56 lakh units approximately as per Statement-I attached.

(c) It has been the consistent endeavour of the Government to increase the blood supply through voluntary donations, organisation of blood donation camps at regular intervals and campaigns to educate the masses through mass media and one to one communication are some of the measures adopted for this purpose.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A Statement-II is attached.

(f) IEC component of the National AIDS Control Programme provides substantial inputs for motivation to voluntary donors involving mass-media, Government Institutions and NGOs.

(g) and (h). Opening of blood banks falls within the perview of State Governments/UT Administrations.

STATEMENT - I

Table Statewise break up of Volume of Blood Collected

(Year - 1995-96)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Blood units collected
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	79800
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	816
3.	Assam	115066
4.	Bihar	
5.	Goa	17690
6.	Gujarat	288965
7.	Haryana	32130
8.	Himachal Pradesh	349905
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	28917
10.	Karnataka	75090
11.	Kerala	289622
12.	Madhya Pradesh	100155
13.	Maharashtra	592288
14.	Manipur	702853
15.	Meghalaya	952
16.	Mizoram	11702
17.	Nagaland	5103
18.	Orissa	130363
19.	Punjab	65320